

CHEADLE & GATLEY URBAN DISTRICT.

Town Hall,
Bruntwood,
Cheadle,
Cheshire.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE
CHEADLE & GATLEY URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Mr. Chairman, Mrs. Hartley and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present to you my annual report for the year 1944. The report is again of an interim nature but is fuller than previous reports since the commencement of the war. The various vital statistic rates are given for the six years 1939-1944 inclusive. None of the variations is sufficient to be significant (i.e. not explainable by chance). The rates for England and Wales, where available, are given for comparison, and over the period of six years the Birth Rate (and Still Birth Rate) is higher than the rate for the country. The Death Rate is consistently lower even where the rates are standardised, so as to allow for the fact that there is a greater proportion of young persons in this area compared with the total population of the country. Owing to movements of population due to the war the comparability factors for the years 1941-44 are not available. The Infantile Mortality Rate is also lower over the six years. The Maternal Mortality Rate is probably about the average.

The incidence of Tuberculosis has increased, mainly due to discharges from the armed forces.

During the year there was the reception of London evacuees. The evacuees - and the authorities from whom they came - are to be congratulated on their condition, especially as they had come from such trying conditions. The Welfare Services were made much more use of than by the evacuees in 1939.

I would take this opportunity of thanking the Clerk to the Council for his help and co-operation and of acknowledging the work done by the Sanitary Inspectors - especially Mr. Hayes, the Senior Sanitary Inspector. I also wish to acknowledge the help given by Dr. Bean as my deputy and, finally, to express my appreciation of the encouragement given me by the Chairman and members of the Public Health Committee.

I am,

Lady and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

D.G. ANDERSON.

Medical Officer of Health.

15th October, 1945.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
FOR THE YEAR 1944.

STAFF: Medical Officer of Health: D.G. Anderson, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.
 Senior Sanitary Inspector: T. Hayes, M.S.I.A., C.R.S.I.
 Assistant Sanitary Inspector: E.A. Dooley, C.R.S.I.
 Both inspectors hold the Meat Inspector's certificate.

Clerical (Medical Officer of Health): Miss E.M. Wood.

Mr. Dooley and Miss Wood are temporary during the absence of Mr. Blackhurst and Miss King, who are on service in H.M. Forces.

DUTIES OF PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS:

The Medical Officer of Health is restricted from private practice but holds this appointment jointly with the appointment of Medical Officer of Health for the urban districts of Alderley Edge and Wilmslow.

The Senior Sanitary Inspector is also Rodent Officer and Inspector under the Petroleum Acts.

Section A.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEARS 1939-1944 (inclusive):

Area (in acres): 5,303. Remaining same for each year.

	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944
Registrar General's Estimate of mid-year population:	27,710	31,280	30,780	29,910	28,920	28,770
<u>Live Births</u> - Total:	490	491	412	472	590	516
Legitimate	472	480	397	462	477	489
Illegitimate....	8	11	15	10	23	17
Birth rate per 1,000 population.						
Cheadle & Gatley:	17.3	15.5	13.2	15.8	17.3	17.9
England & Wales:	15.0	14.6	14.2	15.8	16.5	17.6
Illegitimate births per 1,000 live births:						
Cheadle & Gatley:	16.8	22.6	36.9	21.2	46.0	32.9
<u>Still Births</u> : Total:	19	21	11	17	15	17
Legitimate:.....	18	21	11	17	14	16
Illegitimate:.....	1	0	0	0	1	1
Rate per 1,000 population:						
Cheadle & Gatley:	0.69	0.68	0.36	0.57	0.52	0.42
England & Wales:	0.59	0.55	0.51	0.54	0.51	0.50
Rate per 1,000 (Live and still) births:						
Cheadle & Gatley:	38.1	41.3	26.3	34.8	29.1	23.3
<u>Deaths</u> - All causes:	318	299	310	271	314	291
Death rate per 1,000 population:						
Cheadle & Gatley:	11.44c	10.1c	10.1	9.1	10.86	10.1
England & Wales:	12.1	14.3	12.9	11.6	12.1	11.6
(c) Corrected by comparability factor.						
<u>Deaths from Puerperal Causes:-</u>						
(a) Puerperal Sepsis:	0	0	0	0	0	0
(b) Other Puerperal Causes:	3	0	2	0	0	1
Total:	<u>3</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>1</u>
Rate per 1,000 (live & still) births:						
Cheadle & Gatley:	6.0	0	4.8	0	0	1.9
England & Wales:	2.82	2.16	2.23	2.01	1.84	1.53
<u>Death of Infants under one year of age:</u>						
Legitimate:	30	19	17	17	20	16
Illegitimate:	0	1	2	1	2	1
Total:	<u>30</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>19</u>	<u>18</u>	<u>22</u>	<u>17</u>

1,000							
Rate per/corresponding live births:							
	Cheadle & Gatley:	62	41	46	38	44	32
	England & Wales:	50	55	59	49	49	46
Legitimate:	Cheadle & Gatley:	63	40	43	37	42	33
Illegitimate:	Cheadle & Gatley:	0	91	133	100	87	59
		1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944
Deaths from	Cancer (all ages)	49	40	50	42	62	61
"	" Measles (all ages)	0	0	0	0	0	0
"	" Whooping Cough (all ages)	1	0	2	0	0	0
"	" Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	1	2	1	3	0	3
"	" Influenza (all ages)	6	9	2	3	16	6
"	" Pneumonia (all ages)	15	20	17	12	14	9
"	" Tuberculosis, Pulmonary (all ages)	12	8	12	6	7	5

SECTION B: GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA:

- (a) Staff: See beginning of report.
- (b) Laboratory Facilities: Unaltered from 1943 report.
- (c) Ambulance Facilities: Unaltered from 1943 report.
- (d) Treatment Centres and Clinics:

During the year a new Centre was opened at Adswood in the hut attached to the Mission Hall and has met a need.

- (e) Hospitals, public and voluntary: No change.

The need for accommodation for maternity cases (other than complicated) continues to be felt, but with the gift of Brookfield to this Council and the agreement with the County Council this need should soon be met.

SECTION C: SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA:

- (a) Water Supply:

This is supplied by the Stockport Corporation Water Department. The supply is adequate in all parts of the district. A few wells are still in use. The supply is constant and there are only two houses supplied from standpipes. The nature of the water is such that it is not plumbo-solvent. There have been some complaints of discolouration but these have been at deadends after flushing. Weekly samples are taken by the supplying authority and have been satisfactory.

- (b) Refuse collection and disposal:

The methods are unaltered, i.e. controlled tipping.

- (c) Sanitary Inspection of the Area:

Herewith is the Senior Sanitary Inspectors report for the year:

During the year further progress was made in making inspections under the Housing Act of 1936. Approximately 375 houses being inspected and recorded. In addition to normal routine work the necessity for repairs to houses grew considerably, particularly with regard to the repair of floors affected with dry and wet rot in dwelling houses. Certificates authorising the purchase of timber for this work and certificates of essentiality in other types of work were issued in 175 cases.

Infestation order:

There are no infestations of the Reservoir or Major type in the area. There have been several minor infestations but these have been confined mainly to dwelling houses in the grounds of which garages and other sheds have been erected with wooden floors, the distance between the ground and floors being normally about 4 inches, thus providing admirable harbourage for these vermin when migrating. Advice and assistance given to occupiers has been effective in eradicating the pests as the complaints arose.

Shops and Food Inspections:

Regular visits have been made to shops in the area. They are generally well kept and in clean condition. The following summary gives the amounts of foodstuffs condemned both in the retail shops and at the

various provisioning depots at camps situate in the area:

Butter....71 lbs. Cheese...4 lbs. Fish...84 lbs. Meat....111 lbs.
 Oranges...620 lbs. Marmalade...797 lbs. Jam...46 lbs. Ham....40 lbs.
 Flour...167 lbs. Chocolate...163 lbs. Assorted fish...10 tins.
 Tinned Milk....85 tins. Tinned Meats...46 tins. Prune Pulp....5 gallons.
 Assorted Tinned Vegetables....60 tins.
 In addition, 84 tons of potatoes which were to be used for pig feeding
 were condemned as being unfit for the purpose.

STATISTIC L RECORD FOR THE YEAR 1944:

Nature of Inspection.	No.of Visits.	No.of Defects.	Notices (Informal)	
			Served.	Complied with.
Dwelling Houses:	1285	296	110	110
Verminous Premises:	10	8	8	8
Rats Investigations:	78	-	-	-
Factory & Workshops:	64	1	1	1
Bakehouses:	24	-	-	-
Farms:	76	-	-	-
Dairies:	112	-	-	-
Schools:	27	-	-	-
Shops, etc:	335	-	-	-
Infectious disease, etc.				
Visits:	357	-	-	-
Drainage:	271	253	18	18
Caravans:	8	-	-	-
Miscellaneous:	176	-	-	-

SECTION D: HOUSING:

The additional Sanitary Inspector has continued to give a considerable portion of his time to the detailed inspection of houses in preparation for action. This is shown in the increase of the housing inspections from 554 in 1943 when this work was recommenced to 1,285 in 1944. No action was taken during the year other than the remedying of Public Health Defects.

SECTION E: INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD:

(a) Milk Supply: Many complaints were received during the year of the keeping quality of the milk. Bacterial count and presence of B.Coli Tests were carried out and in all 102 samples were examined, some including examination for tubercle bacilli, with the following results:-

Undesignated Milk.	Accredited.
Good - 5.	Satisfactory - 4.
Fair - 6.	Unsatisfactory - 1.
Bad - 2.	
Pasteurised.	Tuberculin Tested.
Within standard - 43.	Satisfactory - 5.
Unsatisfactory - 19.	Unsatisfactory - 10.
For Tubercle Bacilli	
Negative - 17.	
Positive - 0.	

The phosphatase test was applied to 57 samples of pasteurised milk, with 45 satisfactory and 12 unsatisfactory results.

In the case of unsatisfactory designated pasteurised samples the matter was taken up with the Authority issuing the main licence.

The large increase in "Pasteurised" is due to taking more samples of "designated" and also because a large number of retailers are now being supplied with bulk pasteurised.

Bad and fair results are taken up with the producer or dairyman as is appropriate.

Positive tubercle bacilli samples are referred to the County Medical Officer.

The Government are to take over the supervision of milk production with considerably more powers than have been granted Local Authorities. The date, however, for the transfer has not yet been fixed. The control of the conditions of distribution is to remain under the local authority. Until the transfer takes place it is important that supervision be continued.

Pasteurised Milk:-

The plant licensed in the district has given satisfactory samples consistently.

One firm having a licence to sell pasteurised milk, but whose processing plant is in another district, gave several unsatisfactory samples. This was probably due to overloading of the plant, and additions have now been installed.

General Remarks:

The rationalisation scheme of deliveries has increased the number of complaints and, if only for psychological reasons, the sooner it can be discontinued the better. In my experience it has led a minority of the retailers to feel that there is a guaranteed market and that good or bad milk will neither increase nor diminish their trade. The majority try to rectify faults when they are pointed out.

It is not my province to argue the necessity or otherwise for this rationalisation to be continued on the grounds of economy in labour and petrol, but I am concerned with the fact that unsatisfactory milk discredits milk drinking in the eyes of many - and more especially where it has been pasteurised. Sour milk is as safe to drink as sweet milk but in this country the taste for sour milk has not been developed and it is not consumed, but wasted. Further, early souring indicates unhygienic conditions of production or bottling, or both.

(b) Meat and other foods:

No meat is now slaughtered in the district, except in case of emergency.

Other premises have been inspected and found satisfactory.

(c) Adulteration, etc:

This work is undertaken by the County Council and I am indebted to the District Inspector for the following information:-

1944:	Samples Taken.	Reported against.
	Milk 35	2
	Other than milk 31	0
	66	2
	Milk Sample 3894:	7% extraneous water. Prosecuted. Fined £2 and 10/6d costs.
	Milk Sample 3034:	"Informal sample" 4.1% extraneous water. Seller cautioned.

SECTION F: PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASES:

(a) General:

The following table gives the number of cases of each disease notified during each of the five years:

	1939.	1940.	1941.	1942.	1943.	1944.
Smallpox:	-	-	-	-	-	-
Scarlet Fever:	24	17	22	94	107	88
Diphtheria:	29	31	20	22	24	19
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid):	-	2	4	-	-	-
Erysipelas:	8	4	2	6	6	1
Acute Poliomyelitis:	1	-	1	2	-	-
Ophthalmia Neonatorum:	-	1	-	1	-	-
Pneumonia:	8	18	19	22	19	16
Epidemic Menengitis:	-	2	8	4	-	1
Acute Polio-encephalitis:	-	2	-	1	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia:	6	2	1	6	5	1
Dysentery:	-	-	-	-	-	9
Measles:	1x	621	260	269	127	303
Whooping Cough:	-x	85	80	11	71	33
Total:	83	785	417	438	359	471

x Not notifiable till October 1939.

The figures for 1944 are those after correction of the diagnoses in view of the subsequent case history either in hospital or by the attendant medical practitioner. The figures for previous years are as originally notified.

DIPHTHERIA:

Of the nineteen cases of diphtheria 13 were aged under 15 years, four cases had been immunised. The fact that children had not been immunised was verified from their parents. All the cases were aged 5 years or over. The ratio immunised to non-immunised in the 5 - 15 age group of the population is 23 to 2, while of the cases it was 4 immunised to 9 not immunised and there would be a still further divergence if the population under 5 years of age were also considered. The figures are small.

SCARLET FEVER: There was no defined outbreak of this disease.

DYSENTERY: The nine cases were all of the Sonne type and, except for two octogenarians the cases were mild. One of the octogenarians died. Seven of the cases were in two "evacuee" families living together. There was probably a much greater incidence than would appear from the notifications, but very few sufferers call in the doctor and in the "evacuee" cases it was only because the requisitioned house was under supervision that the cases were found - and, in the case of the octogenarians, because hospital treatment was asked for.

None of the other diseases calls for comment.

DISINFECTION: Terminal disinfection by formalin has been abandoned for the common infectious diseases and reliance placed on "soap and water" cleanliness.

(b) TUBERCULOSIS: The following table gives the incidence of and mortality from this disease:

	1939.	1940.	1941.	1942.	1943.	1944.
Pulmonary:						
New Cases	16	15	16	12	15	23
(i.e. Primary notifications including armed forces discharges)						
Deaths:	12	8	12	6	7	9
Non-Pulmonary:						
New Cases						
(as above)	5	4	1	6	6	5
Deaths:	2	1	0	3	0	0

(c) LABORATORY EXAMINATIONS:

		<u>1939.</u>	<u>1940.</u>	<u>1941.</u>	<u>1942.</u>	<u>1943.</u>	<u>1944.</u>
Diphtheria:	Positive:	11	16	19	13	19	5
	Negative:	335	87	145	144	109	74
Virulence Tests:	Positive:	1	2	-	-	2	-
	Negative:	-	2	-	-	2	-
Haemolytic)	Positive:	6	1	2	-	1	8
Streptococci)	Negative:	2	4	-	-	9	23
Blood Cultures:	Positive:	-	1	1	-	-	-
	Negative:	-	-	2	1	-	-
Agglutination:	Positive:	-	1	3	6	1	1
	Negative:	8	5	10	5	8	3
Faeces:	Positive:	-	2	-	-	-	-
	Negative:	-	4	7	1	4	1
Urine:	Positive:	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Negative:	-	5	2	-	1	-
Other examinations:	Positive:	-	1	1	-	1	-
	Negative:	2	-	7	2	-	-
Sputa for Tubercle							
Bacilli:	Positive:	10	9	10	6	6	8
	Negative:	63	77	69	73	68	66

(d) DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION:

The scheme commenced in 1936 and the attached table shows how the number of immunisations has progressed since that date. As I have reported several times on the history of the scheme I would now merely state that the notes at the foot of the table show steps in the publicity and facilities given, and the results of each.

During the year 14 children were Schick Tested. All these were previously immunised children. Of these children 6 were positive or doubtfully positive and received a further injection of prophylactic. A further 33 children also received reinforcing doses of prophylactic.

(e) ACTIVE IMMUNISATION AGAINST OTHER DISEASES: No change.

SECTION G: PROVISION OF INSULIN: No change.

Age in years on 31st
December of the
corresponding year.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.

Persons inoculated each year from 1936 - 1944, Choadle & Gttlely U.D.

Notes:									
(1) A circular recommending immunisation was delivered at every house and prophylactic supplied to private practitioners.									
(2) Free immunisation at special clinics (December 1938) and Welfare Centres (May 1939)									
(3) Immunisation at schools.									
(4) Visiting at houses following survey of food cards.									
Notes:	(1)	(2)	1939	1940	(3)	(4)	1943	1944.	Total inoc- ulated under 5 years: 31.12.44. 1019
1936	1937	1938			1941	1942			
0 -	1	1	3	7	14	18	4	5	
1 -	24	11	47	77	141	169	212	193	
2 -	38	16	55	41	151	115	50	49	
3 -	39	12	40	34	140	74	27	9	
4 -	32	16	38	28	138	74	19	6	
5 -	1	19	50	14	120	63	21	7	
6 -	57	17	57	19	154	41	14	4	
7 -	42	10	40	19	131	21	18	2	
8 -	39	11	43	14	124	19	8	4	
									Total aged 5 - 14. 31.12.44: <u>2862</u>

(In calculating the totals at the end of 1944 no account is taken of deaths which may have occurred since immunisation.

Notes:

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